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A FRAGILE ELEPHANT HUNT.

Seven Men Killed by Five
Animals in an African
Forest.
[Exchange.]

In Capt. Wissman's new book describing his trip across Africa, is a very stirring picture representing two elephants, chasing the hunters, black and white, through the tall grass. The only hope of the hunters is to gain the bank of a river near at hand and strike out for the other shore. The enraged brutes, with tails and trunks aloft, are tearing through the grass at the top of their speed, and they are about the ugliest customers you could meet. The story of a very strange elephant hunt has just been told by Capt. Wissman, of the French army, who served a while ago on the Commission which determined the boundary between French Senegal and Portuguese New Guinea.

Arriving on the banks of the Rio Grande, Capt. Wissman requested the natives to take him on an elephant hunt. They promised to do so as soon as elephants were reported in the neighborhood. A few days later one of the natives came rushing into the village and said they had seen the tracks of a young elephant, and, as they saw no other tracks, they thought the rest of the herd was on the other side of the little Koliba River. Their experience told them that the young elephant would not remain away from the rest of the herd. Capt. Wissman happened to be absent from the village and the hunters could not wait his return. So eight of them set out after their prey, and the fact that Wissman was left behind was the heaviest incident of his life.

The eight hunters had plenty of powder and ball and big English muskets which they could load to the muzzle. Through the vines and thickets they traveled until they struck the trail. Suddenly they came upon a clearing where they saw the animal, almost a baby elephant, before them. They were astonished that its companions had left it alone. The young brute, sensing danger, began to make tracks for the forest. Several shots were fired at it, and the sorely wounded animal's last cry of distress echoed far through the forest.

The hunters started towards the animal, keeping, however, in the edge of the timber, where they would be less exposed to an offensive rally from their victim. All of a sudden they heard cries responding to those of a young elephant. The hunters at once comprehended at once that were in danger. The other elephants were not far off, and were running in answer to the cries of their comrade. Two blacks immediately abandoned their victim, which had fallen to the ground. They could hear within the cracking of the undergrowth as the ponderous animals hastened to the scene.

Unfortunately for the hunters, they ran into a thicket of thorny shrubs, through which they could not force their way. After a desperate effort to get through they were compelled, with bleeding limbs, to turn back and seek some better route. They had gone but a few steps when they saw five elephants rushing towards them. Further flight was impossible, and so with their eight guns they blazed away at the enemy. The bullets hit the mark, but an elephant is hard to kill by a front shot, and the animals with redoubled fury rushed upon the helpless men.

Seven of the men were lifted high to the air on the tusks of the animals and then dashed to the ground, broken against the trees and crushed under foot. One man made his escape, and hurried back to the village, whose people were horror-stricken at his recital. A party was sent out to the scene of the tragedy. The seven victims were found so terribly mutilated that their own relatives could hardly recognize them. One of the five elephants was on the ground so seriously wounded that he could not move. The young elephant, whose cries had brought the comrades that so terribly avenged it was dying and the others had disappeared.

May their lives be calm and peaceful, Gentle as a flowing stream, And their lives be no more painful, Than the awakening of a pleasant dream.

Bits of Information.
[Exchange.]

The ordinary watch has ninety-eight pieces.

The percentage of paupers is one in every thousand.

The colored population in the United States amounts to nearly 8,000,000.

There are twenty-five different colors and over 300 intermediate shades in false teeth.

In Ireland there are 40,000 mud cabins consisting of but one room.

The fortieth anniversary of a marriage is a "wooden wedding."

A watch carried by the Emperor Charles V. in 1530 weighed twenty-seven pounds.

San Miguel Church, erected at Santa Fe, N. M., in 1545, is stated to be the oldest church in the country.

It is not considered healthful for a very young person to sleep with an old one.

Nineveh, the ancient city, was 14 miles long and 8 miles wide, surrounded by a wall 100 feet high and 29 feet wide.

The shores of the Dead Sea are lined with pumice-stone showered out of some volcano that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, which cities finally sank beneath the waters of the Dead Sea.

St. Charles, Mo., during its existence, has been under the dominion of three flags, namely, Spain, France and the United States.

Brazilian Indians are said to be about the ugliest human beings on the face of the earth, not excepting the "Diggers" of Lower California and the tribes of Terra del Fuego.

The loco weed, which is abundant in Western Kansas, has a peculiar fascination for cattle, upon which it exerts an intoxicating effect.

Washington.
Villars as Reported by Our Regular Correspondent.

Dec. 17.—Senator Gorman, with whose trickiness as a politician the country has long been familiar, is the manager of the Democratic scheme to secure the election of Senators from Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska and possibly California, who, if not Democrats, will make an iron and agreement to vote with the Democrats on all political questions, including the organization of the Senate of the next Congress; and Jerry Simpson is to be his chief instrument for hoodwinking the Populist members of the Legislatures of those States. Facts were brought out at the Republican Senatorial caucus held this week which convinced the Republican Senators that anything like an honest deal in those States, excepting California, is bound to result in the election of Republican Senators, and steps are being taken to prevent Democratic dishonesty. It is now believed that the Republicans can control the Senate in the next Congress, although if at all, it will be by a very narrow margin.

Present indications bear out the truthfulness of the report prevalent before the assembling of Congress, that the anti-option bill was to be talked to death in the Senate. The other report that a number of Southern Senators, who had favored the bill at the last session had changed front and were now opposed to it is now borne out by the action of the Southern Senators who have already spoken on the bill.

The President will endeavor to get a little recreation during the holiday recess of Congress by going on a duck shooting trip. While he is not exactly sick his health is far from being robust. His friends and family hope that a short rest will put him in a good condition to stand the immense amount of work that will be imposed on him after the holidays.

In marking contrast to publications in Democratic newspapers alleging by implication, if not in plain words, that Secretary Foster is trying to deceive the Democrats and the country as to the condition of the Treasury, are the words of Representative Springer, Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, which has just been authorized by a House Resolution to inquire into and report upon the present condition of the Treasury and the future probable revenues under present laws. Mr. Springer said: "We shall call upon Secretary Foster for a statement covering moneys on hand and indebtedness up to and including December 31, which closes the first half of the current fiscal year. Of course we have every confidence in Secretary Foster, who is eminently fair, and there is no doubt that we will be given a precise statement of the Treasury's condition." Secretary Foster told Mr. Springer and Senators Carlisle and Bruce that it was absolutely certain that there would be an available surplus of not less than \$20,000,000 at the close of the present fiscal year.

Strass's New Waltz.

Strass, the waltz writer, has sent over his new waltz, which The Ladies Home Journal is going to publish in its pages, and is said by musical judges to be one of the brightest pieces of dance music ever produced by him.

Refused to Levy the Tax—Weddings in Hardinsburg.

HARDINSBURG, Dec. 12.—Breckenridge county, in all probability, is to have a big suit on hands. Prior to the construction of the L. H. & W. R.R., the magisterial districts through which the contemplated road was to run, with the exception of the Bewleyville district, voted a tax of \$600,000, to aid in the construction of the road. Pursuant to a call of the County Judge, the Court of claims met on the third Monday in November last. The business to be transacted by the Court was stated in the call and was as follows: To consider and audit claims and to make final settlement with the Sheriff for the revenue of 1891 and 1892, as far as practicable.

During the term of the court, D. R. Murray, Attorney for the L. H. & W. R.R. came forward with a motion to the effect that the Court should levy a tax sufficient to pay the coupons due, January 1, 1892, July 1, 1892, January 1, 1893, and July 1, 1893. The Court refused to entertain the motion on the ground that the ques-

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tion of taxation was not embraced in the call and that therefore, the Court had no jurisdiction over the matter. At the November term, 1891, however, the Court refused to levy the tax on the ground that the Charter under which the L. H. & W. was built, gave them no power to do so. This is virtually saying that the tax will not be levied, consequently a suit is forthcoming.

It is very seldom that the silvery chimes of wedding bells are heard in this dead old town. The dangers incident to the conjugal state are so great it seems, that the young men in these parts are backward in making proposals. They have been in the three or four years last passed, at any rate. It is the solemn duty of every man to propose at some time or other, whether he thinks he will be accepted or not. Rusticus, however has broken the spell. He came into town last week with the girl of his heart and went to the County Clerk's office. The necessary writings were secured. The happy couple then repaired to the residence of Rev. Cox, where the ceremony was performed in a highly satisfactory manner. The actions of the devoted couple at that auspicious time, we are informed, were decidedly interesting. The groom came in with his hat on and kept it on while the sacred rites were being performed. He, also, leaned on the arm of his bride as he entered, and continued to lean upon it till the solemn service was ended. The devoted pair have gone out to face the trials of life, and we wish them much joy. Since the occurrence however, rumors have been flying thick and fast. Young people can hardly be seen together now, I mean a boy and girl, without the announcement being made with a great flourish that they are soon to wed. Madam Rumor has settled down on several devoted couples in this town. Out of the lot one wedding, we are informed, will transpire. The others, we fear, will be indefinitely postponed, owing to circumstances over which the boys have no control.

TOLEDO BLADE.

The most popular and best known weekly newspaper printed in this country is the Toledo Blade. For more than twenty years it has had a circulation of 100,000 to 200,000, going regularly into every state and territory of the Union. From fifteen to twenty-five tons of print paper is consumed in each week's edition, and it is regularly mailed to more than half the postoffices of the United States. It is a peculiar fact that the Blade is the only weekly newspaper published that has regular subscribers in all parts of the United States. It is edited with special reference to the wants of all people in all sections. It is also made to interest every member of the family. Besides all the news of the world, it has Serial and Short Stories, Wit and Humor, Poetry, Camp fire, Farm, Sunday School Lessons, Young Folks, Poultry, Puzzles, Households, Answers to Correspondents, Etc., Etc. As a special feature for 1893, Mr. Robinson Locke, editor and proprietor of the Blade, has just sailed for Japan, and will contribute a series of illustrated letters on the manners and customs of that peculiar country and its people. These articles will be commenced some time in February or March, and will be worth to the readers of the Blade many times the subscription price. Every reader of this paper is invited to send for a specimen copy. The publishers of the Blade would be glad to send a specimen copy to every reader in this country. Subscription price of the Blade, one dollar a year. Five dollars in cash will be paid to any person sending in a small club of subscribers. Write for agent's terms, giving particulars. Address, "The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

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